IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Peter M. Bonutti Confirmation No.: 8298

Application No.: 10/003,996 Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: November 15, 2001 Examiner: Mary C. Hoffman

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TISSUE Docket No: 780-A02-014-8

REMOVAL

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop: Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on March 18, 2009, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application. In accordance with USPTO practice, each section of this Response begins on a separate sheet.